

### **ABSTRACT**

A method of minimizing the formation of polymers and other heavy molecular weight products upon heating of a hydrocarbon stream in a hydroconversion process is described. Specifically, sufficient hydrogen-containing gas is added to the hydrocarbon stream before heating to reduce its fouling tendency. The hydrogen-containing gas is added in an amount less than about 500 Standard Cubic Feet per Barrel (SCFB), preferably less than about 100 SCFB and more preferably less than about 50 SCFB.